

Abstract of the Disclosure

METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR CONCENTRATING  
PROCESSED VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PRODUCTS  
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An apparatus for concentrating a vegetable and/or fruit product has a concentration unit having a plurality of tubular membrane modules connected in series, a  
10 single-axis eccentric screw pump connected to its inlet for supplying the product and  
another single-axis eccentric screw pump connected to its outlet for discharging the  
product concentrated by reverse osmosis by the concentration unit. The product is  
supplied under a high-pressure condition such that the pressure at the inlet is within a  
specified range, and the apparatus is operated such that the pressure at the outlet is also  
15 within another specified range and the pressure difference between the inlet and the outlet  
be greater than a certain minimum pressure value. By a method of this invention,  
concentrated vegetable and/or fruit products with solid components approximately in  
their original forms can be obtained.